

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT RECREATION FEE PROGRAM SUMMARY FY11 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

NAME OF FEE PROJECT: AZ21 YUMA FIELD OFFICE SPECIAL
RECREATION PERMIT PROGRAM

STATE: AZ

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DESCRIPTION:

The Yuma Field Office Special Recreation Permit Program includes two components: (1) individual use of two specially-designated Long-Term Visitor Areas (LTVA), and (2) commercial uses, competitive events, and organized group activities on the public lands. The Imperial Dam and La Posa LTVAs, which collectively encompass over 12,000 acres, provide long-term recreation vehicle (RV) camping opportunities on the public lands between September 15 and April 15 of each year. The LTVAs include amenities, such as visitor information stations, trash disposal, potable water, black and grey water dump stations, restrooms, and shade ramadas.

LTVA FEE SCHEDULE:

Short-visit Permit (14 days): \$40.00

Long-term Permit (September 15 – April 15): \$180.00

All LTVA permits are honored at all other LTVAs for the length of their validity, including at five additional LTVAs managed by the BLM California Desert District.

FEE SCHEDULE FOR OTHER SPECIAL RECREATION PERMITS:

The SRP fee schedule for commercial activities is established nationally for all BLM field offices. Fee receipts derived from recreational commercial, competitive, and organized group event SRPs are routinely calculated using national fee schedule guidance found in BLM Recreation Permit Administration Manual H-2930-1, Section III.G., as established by 43 CFR 2930. As of March 2011, the SRP fee schedule is the following:

- Commercial permits are the maximum of \$100 or 3% of the gross revenue.
- Competitive permits are the maximum of \$100, 3% of gross revenue or \$5 per participant/day.
- Organized-group use is \$5 per person per day or \$100, whichever is greater.

SPECIFIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN FY11:

Visitor Services, Interpretation:



Recreation fee revenues were used to provide support for campground hosts and volunteers. The volunteer pictured above has been leading hikes for LTVA residents for approximately 10 years. Volunteerism adds to enjoyment of many visitors and the services that volunteers provide also enhance the recreational experience of visitors who come to enjoy the region's mild winter climate.

Repair, Maintenance, and Facility Enhancement:



The Special Recreation Permit fees continued to pay for the cost of materials and equipment needed for the maintenance of recreation facilities in FY11. Labor costs for BLM staff and reimbursements for volunteers who operate and maintain facilities are also covered by recreation fees. The large-group pavilion pictured above received some new components for the solar powered lights that allow visitors to enjoy events after sunset. A new kiosk to announce upcoming events and allow campers to exchange information was also installed.

Law Enforcement – Public Use and Recreation:

A portion of the labor and equipment funding for Law Enforcement Officers who routinely patrol the recreation areas and monitor commercial vendors is covered by recreation fees. During busy public events such as the January-February gem and mineral shows in Quartzsite, Arizona, officers from adjacent offices are brought in to assist with visitor security and resource protection issues.

PROJECTS/ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR FY12:

For the foreseeable future, collected recreation fees will continue to support costs associated with garbage collection, supplies and materials for facility maintenance, monitoring on-site commercial services provided by vendors, and for BLM staff and volunteers who conduct the operation and maintenance of recreation facilities. Provided that fee collections remain at the same general levels as previous years, the BLM Yuma Field Office may install additional large-group pavilions to allow more events to be scheduled for visitors.